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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/588,486	08/04/2006	Katrin Klass	294079US0PCT	6691
22850 7590 07/11/2007 OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			EXAMINER WITHERSPOON, SIKARL A	
			ART UNIT 1621	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 07/11/2007	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/588,486	Applicant(s) KLASS ET AL.	
	Examiner Sikarl A. Witherspoon	Art Unit 1621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 August 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>8/4/06</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-5 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tedeschi et al (J. Org. Chem., 1963).

Tedeschi et al disclose a process for preparing a propargyl alcohol by condensing an aldehyde (acetaldehyde or propionaldehyde) with acetylene in the presence of ammonia and potassium hydroxide, at a temperature from 25-40° C, and a pressure of 190-200 psig (about 13 bar). This process anticipates the instant claims (see experimental section on p 1743).

Claims 1-6 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tedeschi et al (US 3,082,260).

Tedeschi et al disclose the preparation of several propargyl alcohols by condensing acetylene and an aldehyde in the presence of ammonia and potassium hydroxide (see examples 8-10 for specific reaction conditions and concentration of reactants). This process anticipates the instant claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tedeschi et al.

The instant claims further limit the process of the present invention such that the substituent R1 is a 3-heptyl group, and recites a limitation wherein the conversion to propargyl alcohol is effected by simultaneous metering of the reactant streams.

Tedeschi et al do not expressly teach these limitations; however, the reference teaches reaction of butyraldehyde, isobutyraldehyde, and isooctylaldehyde, with acetylene. It therefore would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art that both higher and lower aldehydes may have been reacted with acetylene under the reaction conditions disclosed in by the reference, with the reasonable expectation of producing the corresponding propargyl alcohol. It would have also been obvious to a person of ordinary skill to meter the reactants into a reactor simultaneously or step-wise, as desired with the reasonable expectation of producing a propargyl alcohol.

Claims 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tedeschi et al as applied to claims 7 and 8 above, and further in view of Kindler et al (US 6,297,407).

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The instant claims further limit the process of the invention to the base being an alkali metal or alkaline earth metal alkoxide. Tadeschi et al teach the use of an alkali hydroxide; however, Kindler et al teach the preparation of alkyne alcohols by reacting a carbonyl compound, i.e., an aldehyde or ketone, with acetylene in the presence of potassium alkoxide (col. 2, line 53 to col. 3, line 6).

In view of the combined reference teachings, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the present invention was made, to substitute the alkoxide used by Kindler et al for the hydroxide compound used by Tadeschi et al, since the combination of teachings suggests the equivalence of alkali hydroxides and alkoxides in such reactions.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sikarl A. Witherspoon whose telephone number is 571-272-0649. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yvonne Eyler can be reached on 571-272-0871. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

saw

Sikarl A. Witherspoon
SIKARL A. WITHERSPOON
PRIMARY EXAMINER